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From: Curt and Betty Cureton [mailto:candbcureton@peoplepc.com]  
Sent: Monday, February 21, 2005 4:39 PM  
To: Melissa Miller-Henson  
Subject: saving our oceans

Ms. Miller-Henson, member  
MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force

Dear Ms. Miller-Henson:

My wife and I have raised four children here on the Monterey Peninsula, and the ocean has been a very important part of our lives. Frankly, I can't imagine living here in this California paradise if the ocean were to be without clean water and a healthy population of fish, seabirds and shorebirds, marine invertebrates, and marine mammals. Still, those are the conditions we are facing with growing frequency. Increasingly, overfishing and pollution of our water sources have diminished the viability of this great resource. Further, our oceans and rivers interact with other water resources worldwide, and all that is now being threatened.

Many scientists tell us that the only way to ensure a healthy ocean is to set aside protected areas for our marine life. We can keep our marine wildlife healthy by discretely closing marine areas to over-fishing and pollution. If we are to save our marine life, the reproductive stock must be given a chance to grow up in a healthy ocean. It has been shown that life in such marine reserves spills over into surrounding areas. So, over a period of time, the public will be better served by eating healthier food drawn from a healthier ocean.

Our family sees the protection of marine resources as a global problem. The health of people everywhere will depend on good people doing all they can to ensure the viability of marine resources. Please do all you can to help insure the future of our oceans by setting aside marine reserves. We need them desperately!

Respectfully,  
Curtis and Betty Cureton  
Pebble Beach, California